I WAS JUST FIGHTING A MOMENT AGO...

AM I... DEAD?

THIS HELL...
SEEMS A BIT
STRANGE.

WELL...
I GUESS IT'S
JUST WHAT HELL
LOOKS LIKE.

I KNEW THAT I'D GET USED BY SOMEONE AND THAT MY LIFE WOULD BE TOSSED ASIDE LIKE A PIECE OF TRASH.

TADAK

TADAK

IF I'M DEAD, THAT MEANS THOSE GUYS PROBABLY GOT OUT OF THE MANOR FINE...

THAT'S RIGHT...
I WOULD'VE FELT BAD
IF THEY DIED.

EVEN IF
I SURVIVED, I'M
SURE I WOULD JUST
END UP BEING HUNTED
BY SOMEONE.

TADAK

TADAK

BUT I DID HAVE
FUN AT THE END AND I
DIDN'T DIE IN PAIN... MAYBE
THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH.

TADAK
TADAK
TADAK

TADAK

TADAK

TAK

A DOG?

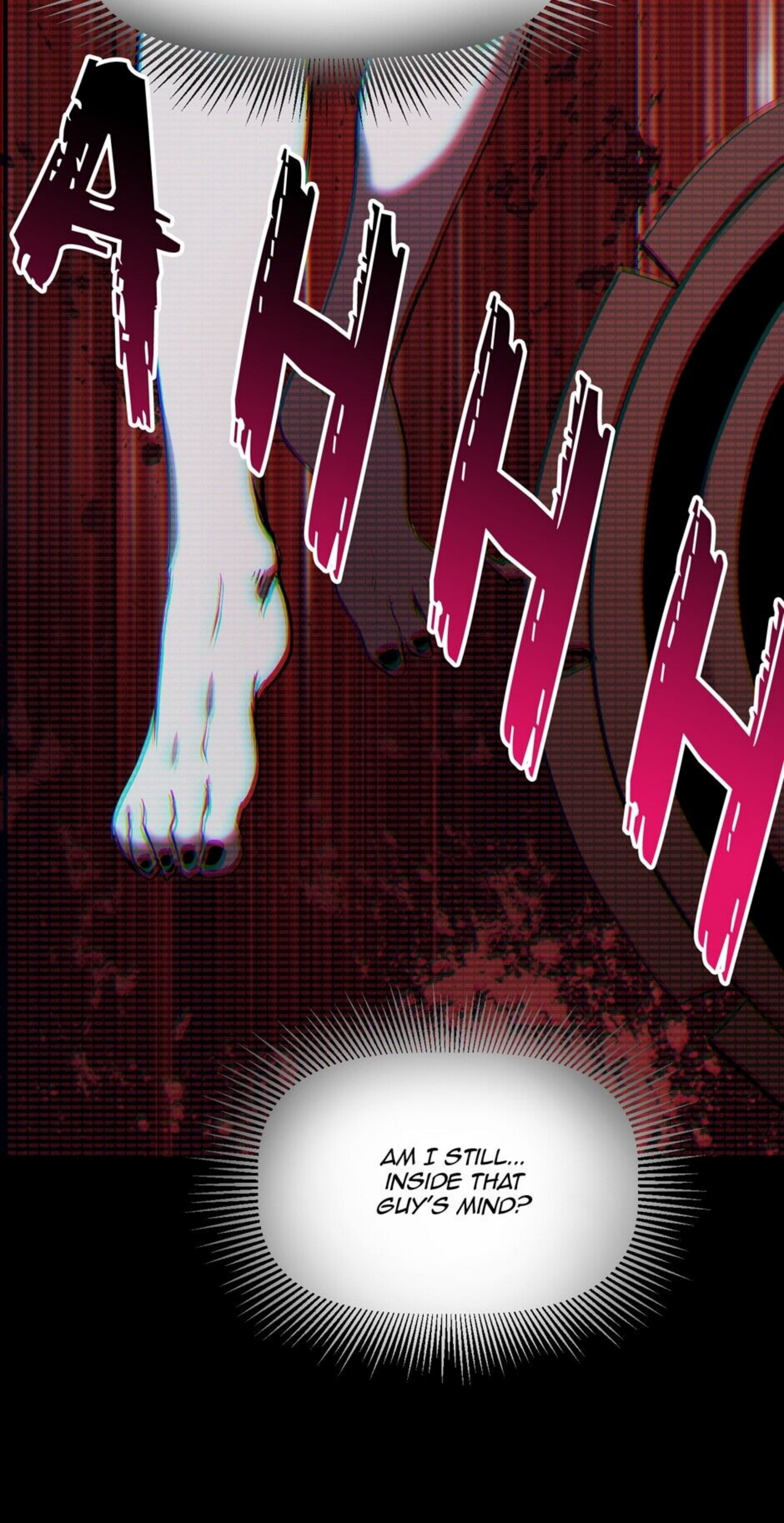
YOU SOUND JUST LIKE A WHINING KID, SAYING THAT YOU'RE RELIEVED TO BE DEAD.

IF YOU JUST SIT THERE... YOU'LL BE EATEN ALIVE!

WHAT?

AHHHHH

N-NO WAY...
THIS ISN'T HELL...!


AHHH
AM I STILL... INSIDE THAT GUY'S MIND?

AHHH

I ALMOST

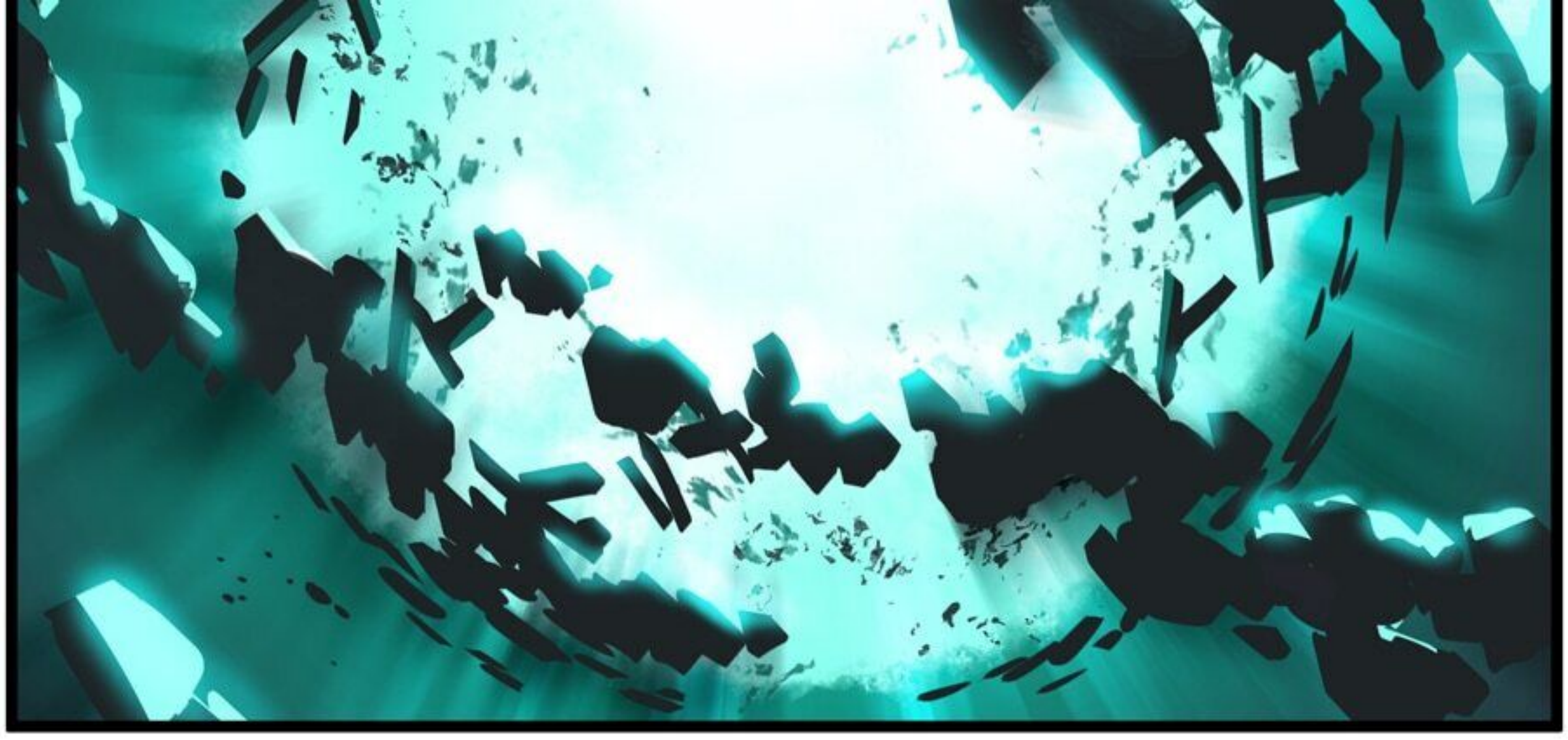
GOT SWALLOWED UP JUST FROM TAKING A QUICK PEEK...!
HIS FEAR...!
...DESPAIR AND ANGER!
ALL THAT TRAUMA!
HOW COULD HE POSSIBLY...?!

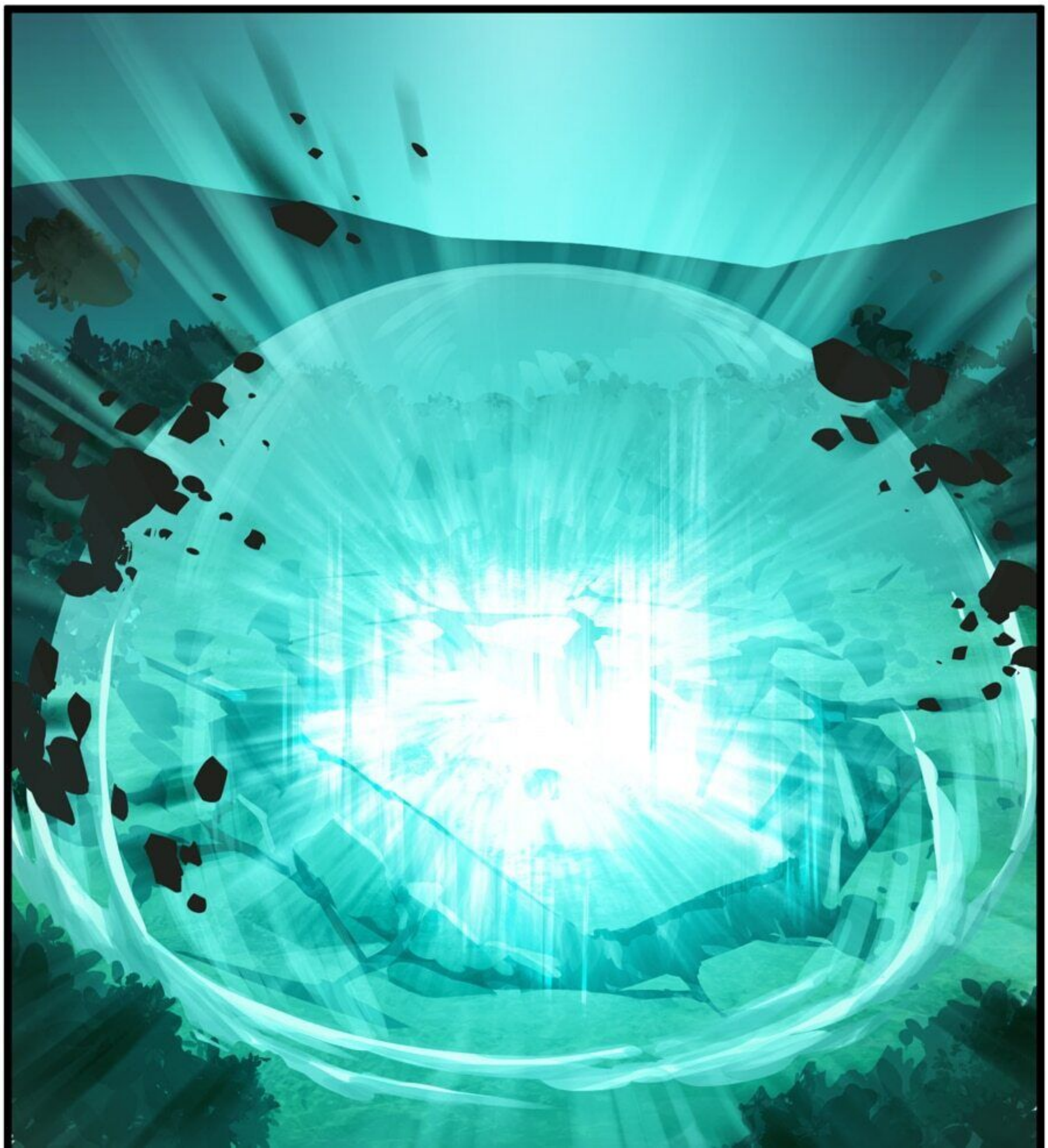
KILL

SHE'S OUT! MISTER ARTIS!
GOT IT!
INITIATING THE MULTI-LAYER SPELL!

KIIIN
KIIIN

HHHHH
HHHHH
HHH





LATNA SAGA

SURVIVAL OF A SWORD KING

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GRAAARGH!

WHEW~!
WE'RE ALIVE...!

WHAT HAPPENED? THE MANOR? THE SPACE?!

YES!
YOU'RE RIGHT!

BUT IT'S
MORNING ALREADY...?
HAS A WHOLE DAY
PASSED?

BUT THEN THE TRIAL...
HEH HEH...
I GUESS THIS WAS MY LAST ADVENTURE.

WHAT... IS THIS?!
HOW COULD I BE...?!

WE TOOK OUT THE COMPUTING DEVICE THAT ACTED AS A DUNGEON CORE JUST NOW.

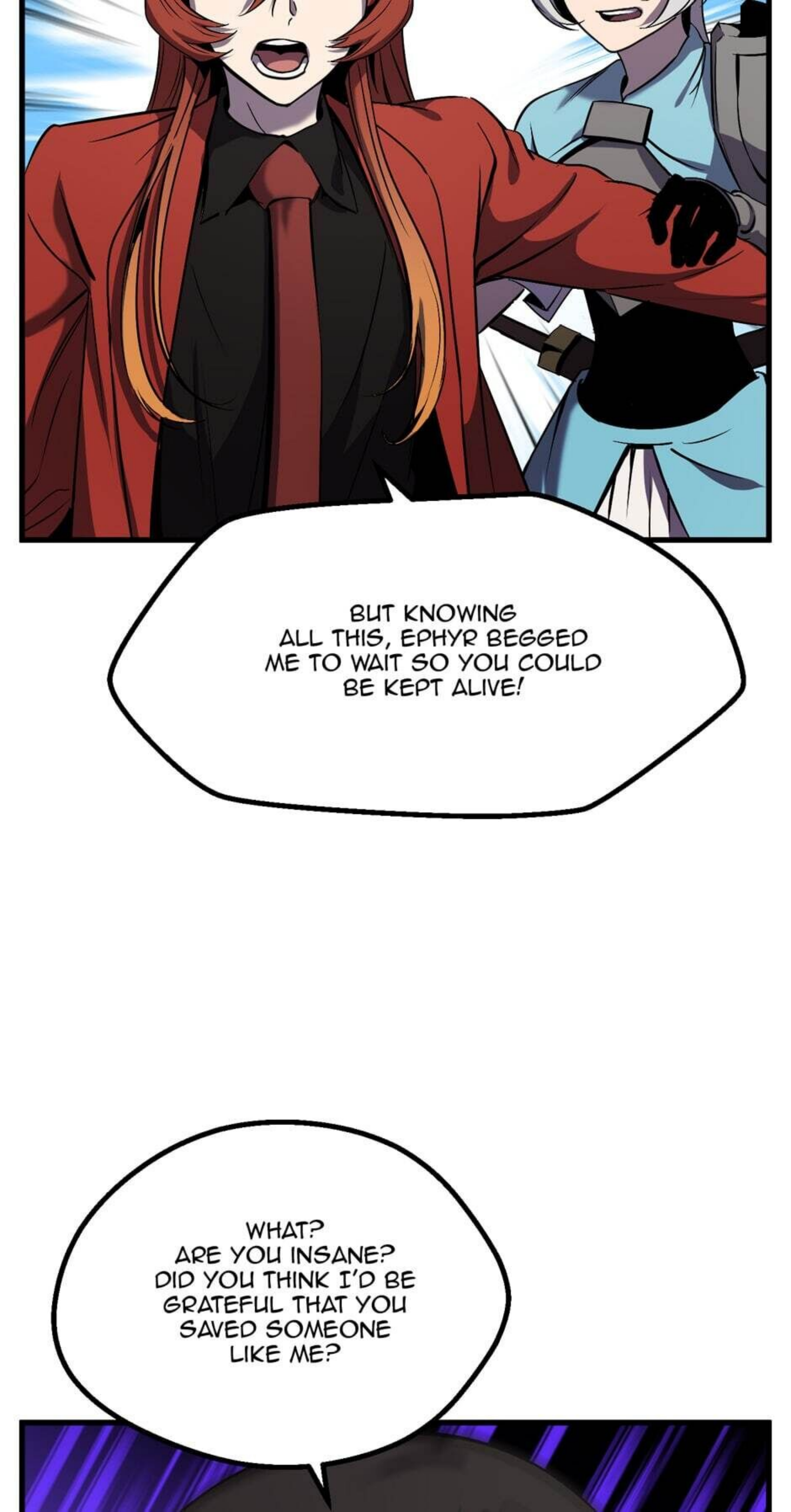
THE GUIDE LINE THAT HAD ENABLED YOU TO HAVE SKILLS AND ABILITIES IS GONE. YOU'RE JUST AN ORDINARY HUMAN BEING NOW.

THAT CAN'T BE! WH-WHY?! WHY DIDN'T YOU KILL ME? ARE YOU GONNA HAND ME OVER TO THE CHURCH FOR THEM TO TORTURE ME?

WELL HONESTLY... WE COULD'VE KILLED YOU IF WE INITIATED THE SPELL WHEN YOU WERE INSIDE HANBIN.

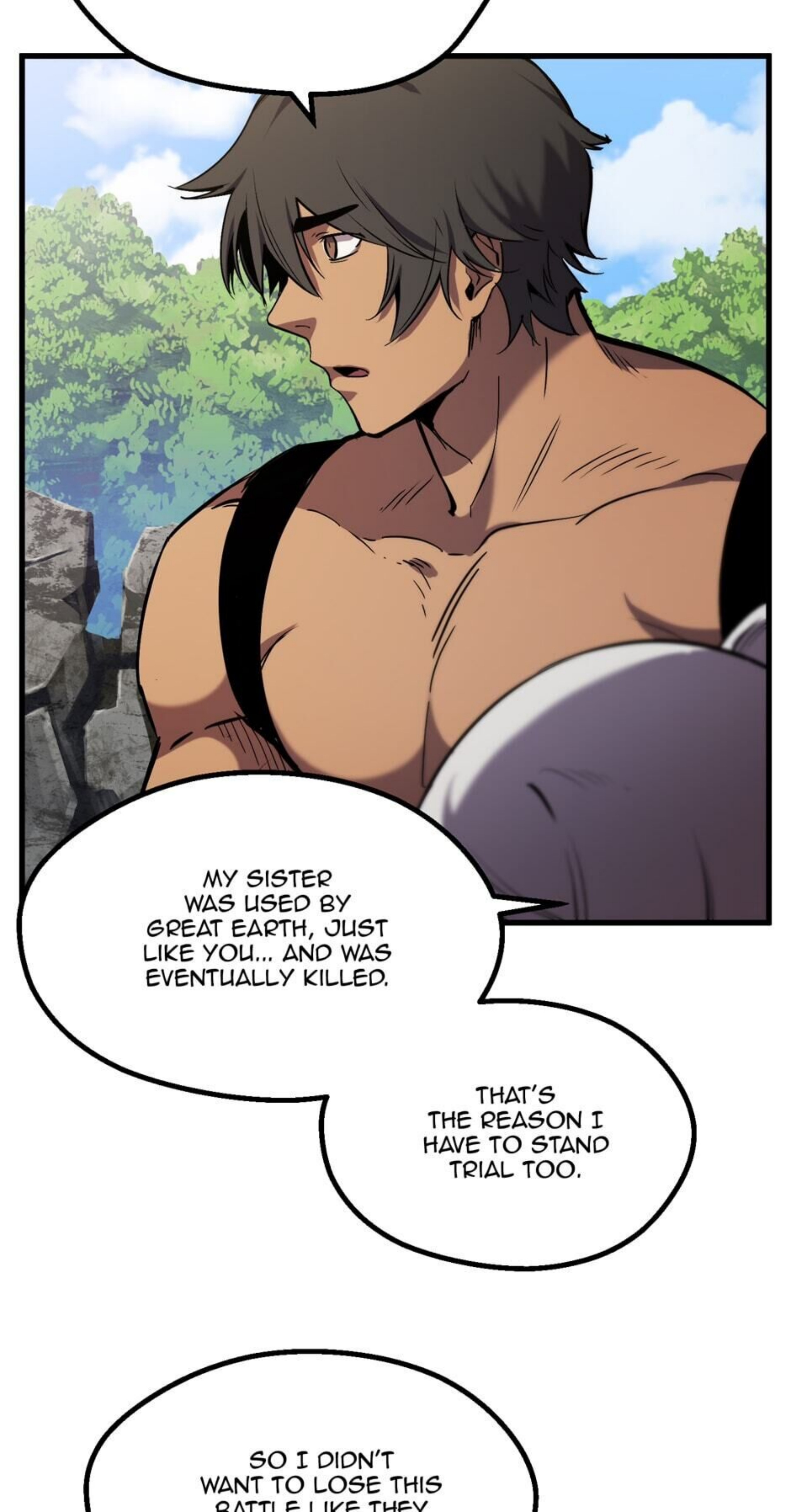
AND I DON'T MIND HANDING YOU OVER TO THE CHURCH RIGHT NOW, CONSIDERING HOW MUCH TIME YOU MADE US WASTE.

BECAUSE OF YOU, EPHYR COULDN'T MAKE IT TO HER TRIAL! SHE'S GONNA BE SENT TO THE CRATER PRISON!


BUT KNOWING ALL THIS, EPHYR BEGGED ME TO WAIT SO YOU COULD BE KEPT ALIVE!
WHAT? ARE YOU INSANE? DID YOU THINK I'D BE GRATEFUL THAT YOU SAVED SOMEONE LIKE ME?

THAT'S JUST USELESS PITY!

HEY, DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A BIT TOO HARSH...

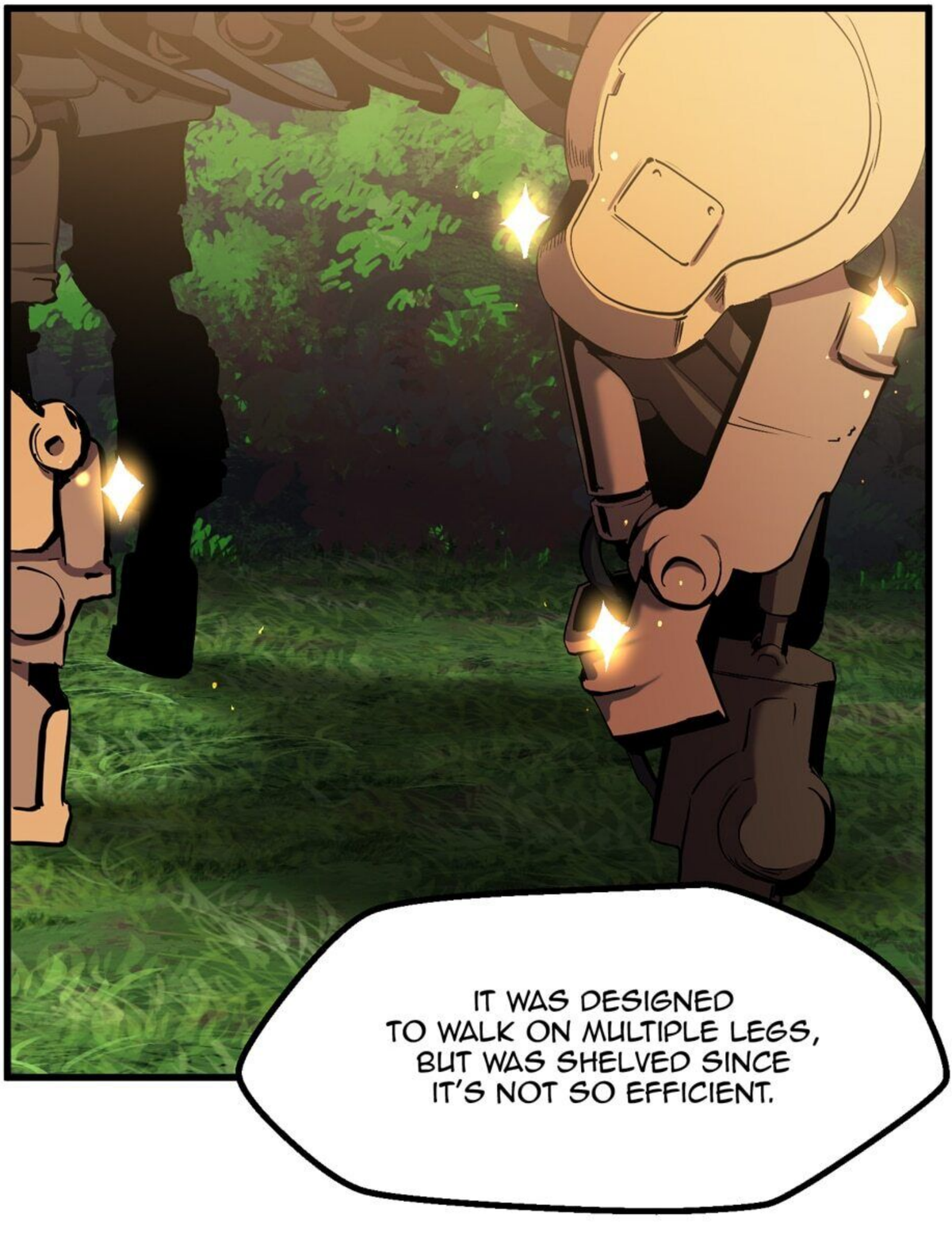

MY SISTER WAS USED BY GREAT EARTH, JUST LIKE YOU... AND WAS EVENTUALLY KILLED.
THAT'S THE REASON I HAVE TO STAND TRIAL TOO.
SO I DIDN'T WANT TO LOSE THIS BATTLE LIKE THEY

BATTLE LIKE THEY WANTED ME TO.
EVEN IF I'M SENT TO PRISON...
...I'M GONNA SURVIVE, NO MATTER WHAT!

TO SURVIVE IS TO WIN!

THAT WON'T HAPPEN. EVEN IF YOU END UP ESCAPING, WE'LL...
EPHYR, MAYBE THE PRISON'S NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL!
POW
THEN MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO THERE YOURSELF!
THERE'S...

THERE'S STILL A WAY!


IT WAS DESIGNED TO WALK ON MULTIPLE LEGS, BUT WAS SHELVED SINCE IT'S NOT SO EFFICIENT.

IT USES A MAGIC STONE TO POWER ITS ENGINE, SINCE IT NEEDS EXTRA POWER TO PUMP THOSE LEGS!
...WHICH MAKES ME WONDER WHY IT WAS DESIGNED TO USE MULTIPLE LEGS TO BEGIN WITH THEN.
IT'S A DREAM COME TRUE! IT CHOSE MECHANICAL BEAUTY AND MAGICAL FUNCTIONALITY OVER EFFICIENCY!

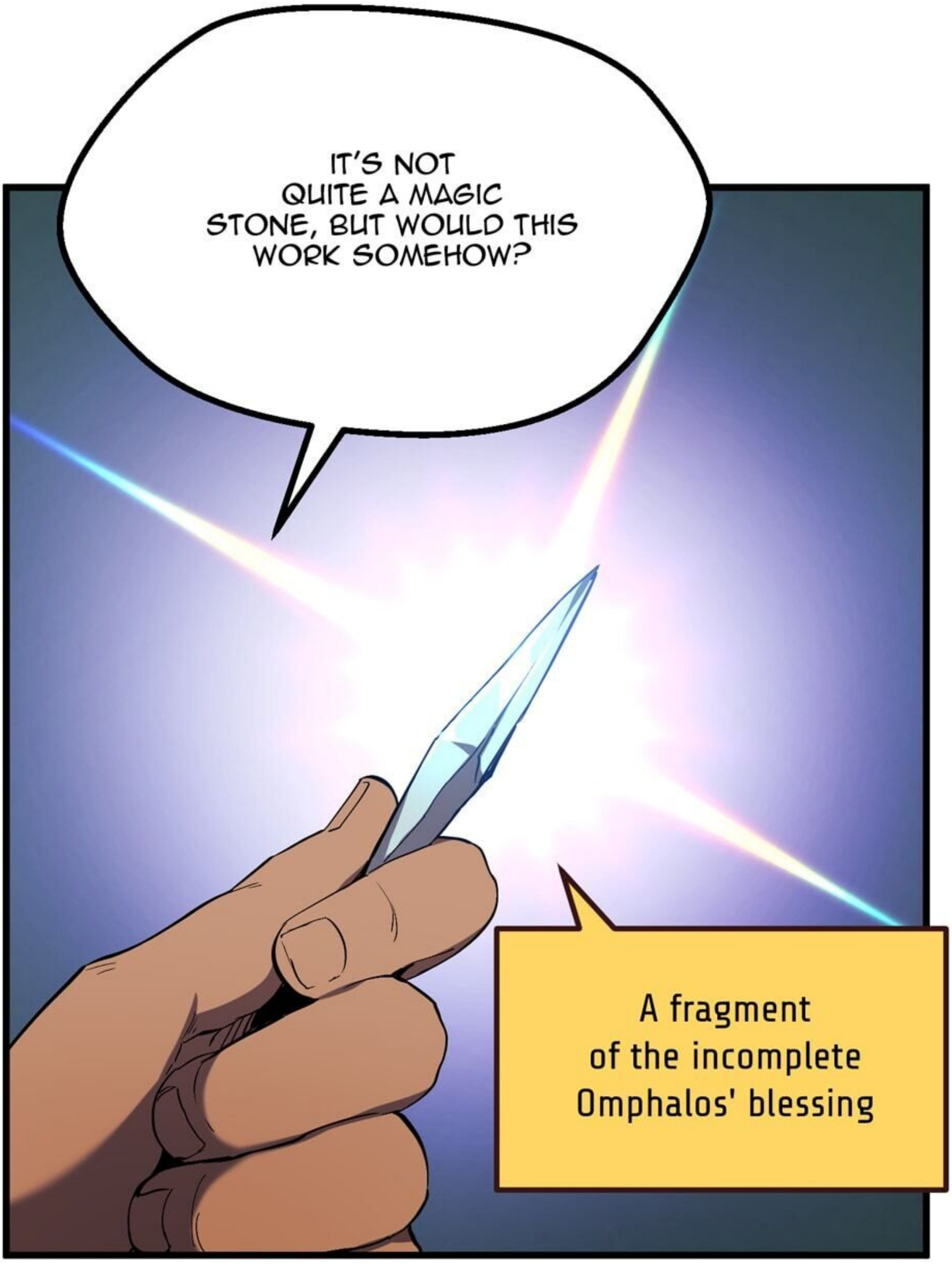
MULTI-LEGGED GOLEM CARRIAGE TARPAN CARVALUS F8000!!
?
I'VE ONLY READ ABOUT THIS TRAGIC MASTERPIECE IN BOOKS, SINCE IT WAS DISCONTINUED DUE TO BEING OVER-ENGINEERED!

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE IT IN REAL LIFE~
WE CAN MOVE LIKE THE WIND AS LONG AS WE HAVE THIS!!
WHAT IS THAT THING? AND WHY'S HE ALL OVER IT?
I'M NOT SURE, ACTUALLY... THE OLD OWNER OF THE MANOR HAD IT, AND IT WAS JUST SITTING HERE FOR A WHILE.

WOW! ANYWAY, WE WON'T BE LATE IF WE USE THIS, RIGHT? THANKS, MAIDEN!
UHM... SURE...
WAIT...
WHAT IS IT, ARTIS?

TARPY EXCELS IN SPEED.
BUT BECAUSE OF THAT, WE NEED A HIGH-OUTPUT MAGIC STONE AS ITS ENERGY SOURCE...
AND WE HAVE NONE.

TCH... THAT'S UNDERSTANDABLE. THOSE GUYS FROM GREAT EARTH WOULDN'T LEAVE ANYTHING USEFUL BEHIND.
I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT WE JUST NEED STRONG MAGIC STONE, RIGHT?


IT'S NOT QUITE A MAGIC STONE, BUT WOULD THIS WORK SOMEHOW?
A fragment of the incomplete Omphalos' blessing

THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD

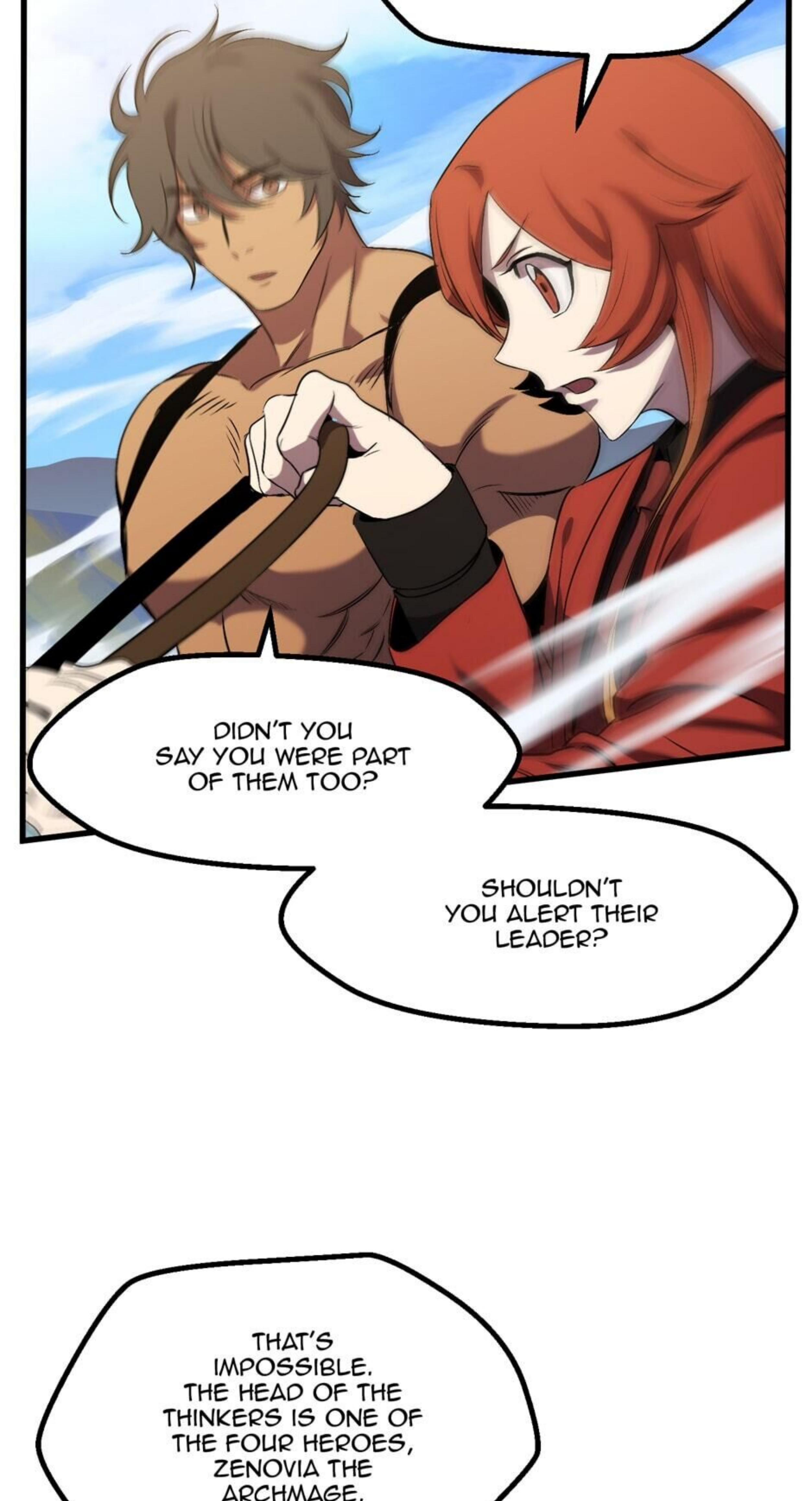
YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO ANYWAY!
WHY DID YOU MAKE ME COME ALONG?
UGH

MISTER ARTIS... I MIGHT PUKE...

AH, TARPY! IT MATCHES UP TO ANY OF THE LATEST MAGIC CARRIAGES!

BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE'RE JUST USING A TINY PIECE OF OMPHALOS' BLESSING YET IT'S THIS POWERFUL...

BUT IF THE THINKERS HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS, WE CAN'T JUST LOOK OVER IT.

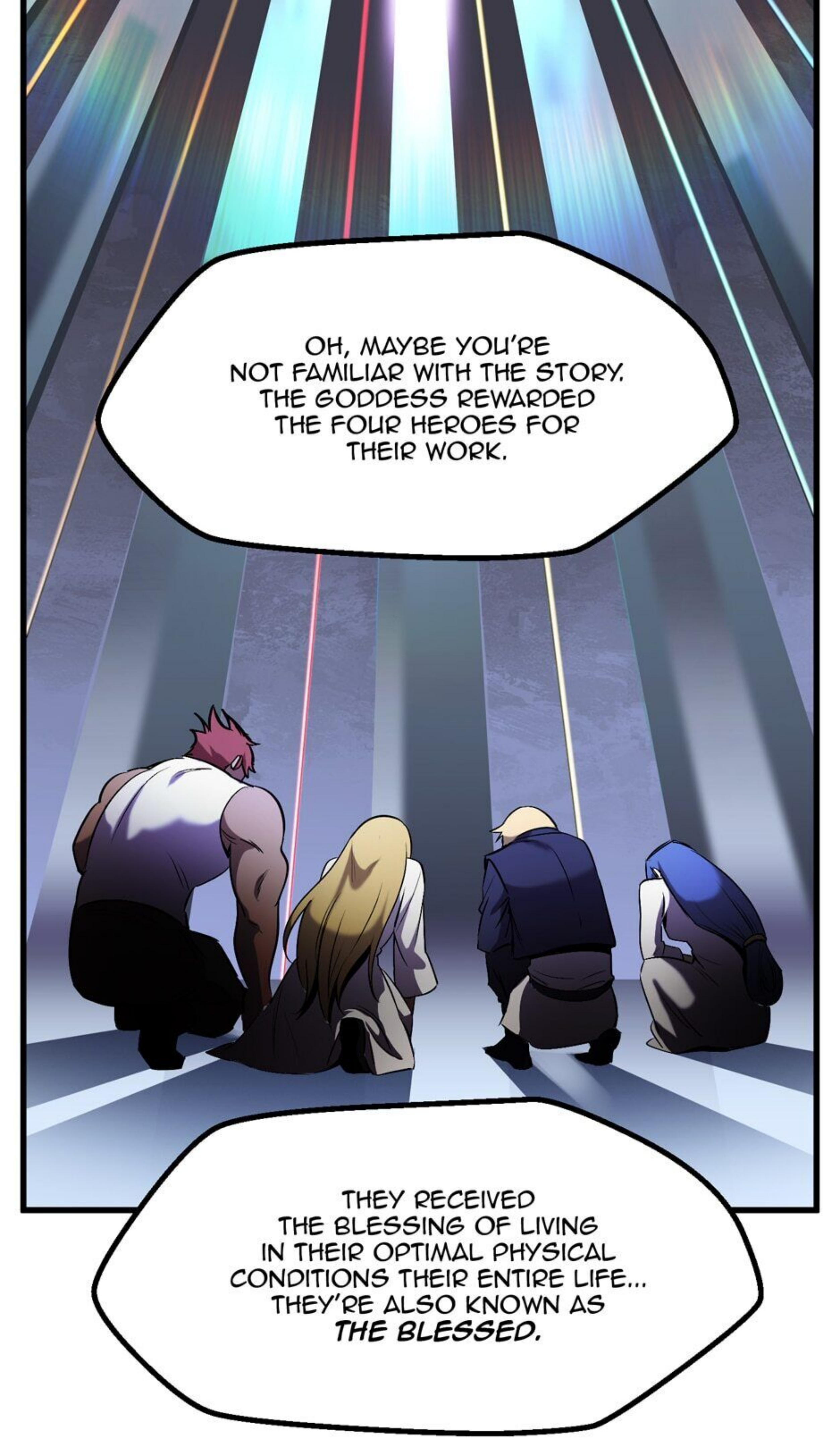

DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE PART OF THEM TOO?
SHOULDN'T YOU ALERT THEIR LEADER?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. THE HEAD OF THE THINKERS IS ONE OF THE FOUR HEROES, ZENOVIA THE ARCHMAGE.

SHE'S LATNA'S GREATEST MAGE WHO STOPPED THE OTHERWORLDERS' ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE GODDESS 20 YEARS AGO AND...

...IS ALSO THE QUEEN OF THE KINGDOM OF MAGIC, RUNE.

SHE'S ALSO BEAUTIFUL AND SINGLE... SO ALL THE FAMOUS NOBLEMEN WHO'D DO ANYTHING TO MARRY HER WOULD NEVER LET SOMEONE LIKE ME APPROACH HER.

WHAT? IF SHE WAS ABLE TO FIGHT OFF LEVEL-100 OTHERWORLDERS 20 YEARS AGO... HOW OLD IS SHE NOW?!


OH, MAYBE YOU'RE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE STORY. THE GODDESS REWARDED THE FOUR HEROES FOR THEIR WORK.
THEY RECEIVED THE BLESSING OF LIVING IN THEIR OPTIMAL PHYSICAL CONDITIONS THEIR ENTIRE LIFE... THEY'RE ALSO KNOWN AS *THE BLESSED.*

YOU SHOULD DEFINITELY KNOW ABOUT ONE OF THEM IF YOU'RE

ONE OF THEM IF YOU'RE GONNA KEEP CLAIMING TO BE A VALTARAN.

THE GREATEST SWORDSMAN IN THE CONTINENT PALITAULT THE SWORD MASTER

HE'S CONSIDERED THE STRONGEST ONE OUT OF THE FOUR HEROES AND IS THE VALTARAN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMAGE OF THE 'VALTARAN WARRIOR' EVERYONE THINKS OF... BUT NO ONE'S SEEN HIM RECENTLY.

ARE THEY ALL THAT MYSTERIOUS?

NO, THE SWORD MASTER IS JUST MORE PECULIAR THAN OTHERS.

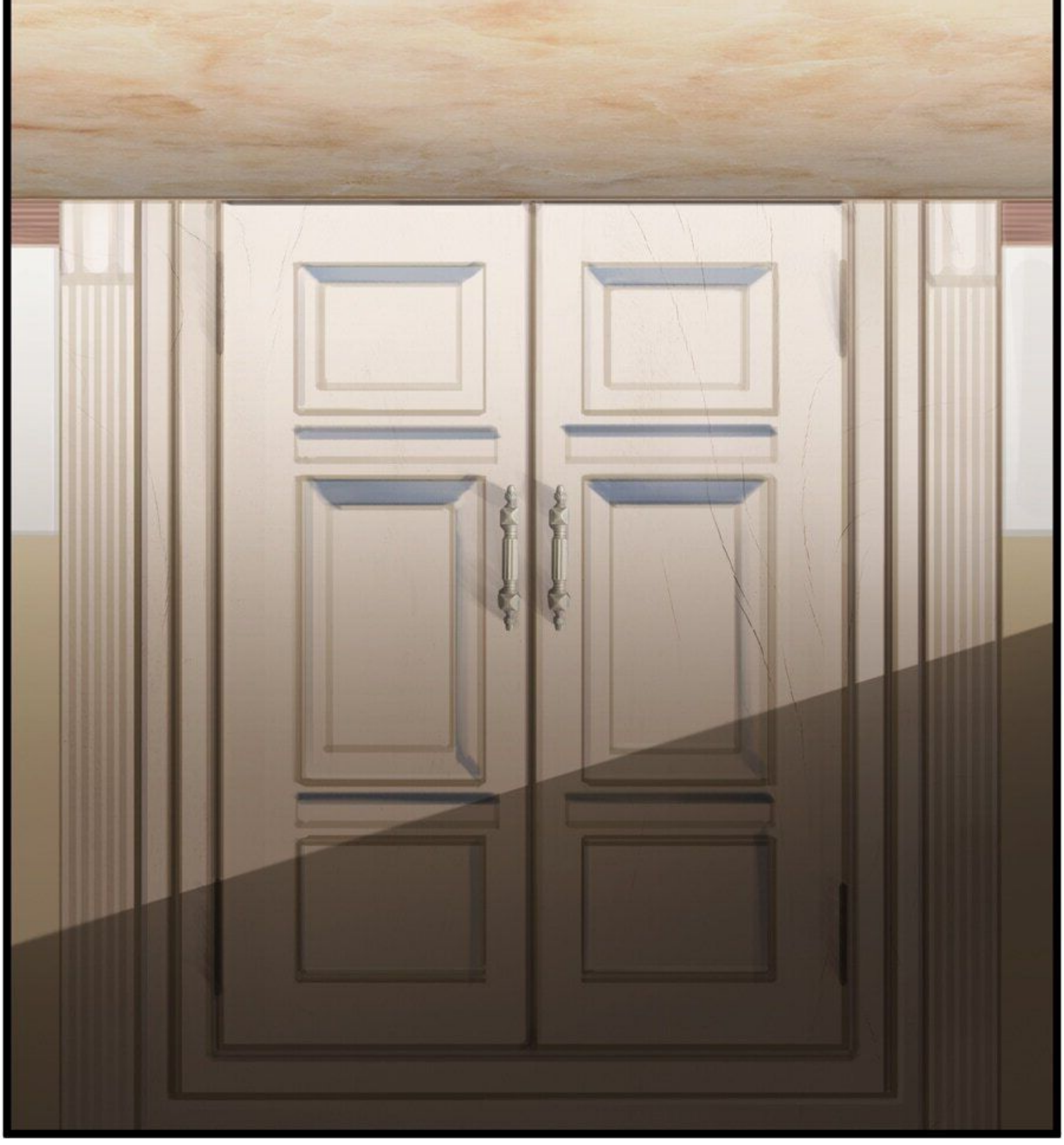
SHE'S FROM THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FAIRY SPECIES AND USED TO BE CALLED 'THE GREATEST NYMPH,' BUT NOW SHE'S THE QUEEN OF ARLENDIA, THE KINGDOM OF FAIRIES, AND HAS BEEN FOCUSING ON POLITICS.

BUT THIS ONE'S STILL ACTIVE. HE HUNTED THE MOST NUMBER OF OTHERWORLDERS. WHILE JUST A REGENT, HE'S THE REAL POWER OVER CALDRY, THE THOUSAND-YEAR KINGDOM.
THE APEX OF MAGIC SWORDSMEN
GARHAN THE LIGHTNING LORD

WHOA... SO THEY WERE ONCE A HUNTING PARTY THAT USED TO FIGHT TOGETHER?
IT'D BE AMAZING IF THEY EVER HAD A REUNION!
HAHA... I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THE SWORD MASTER WHO WORKS ALONE,
BUT IF THERE'S EVER AN OCCASION WHERE THE REMAINING THREE ARE ALL TOGETHER...

I BET NO ONE WOULD EVEN DARE TO MAKE A SOUND BREATHING!

MAJOR BATTLE, OR...
...AN OCCASION JUST AS IMPORTANT.



ALL THE NOBLEMEN WHO USED TO BE BUSY SCANNING MY BODY COULDN'T EVEN TAKE A BREATH TODAY.

THANKS TO YOU, WE'RE SOLD OUT OF OUR NEWEST PRODUCT. SO THANKS, GARHAN.

HMPH! YOU HAVE TO GET MONEY FROM OTHER KINGDOMS' NOBLEMEN SINCE YOUR MILITARY IS TOO WEAK.

YOU THINK POLITICAL POWER COMES FROM FORCE? HOW MILITARISTIC... AND FITTING FOR THE REGENT OF CALDRY!

BUT YOU DIDN'T REALLY CALL ME HERE JUST TO SELL SOME GOLEMS, RIGHT?

I GUESS HOLIEN NEVER MADE IT HERE TO BEGIN WITH.

SRRK

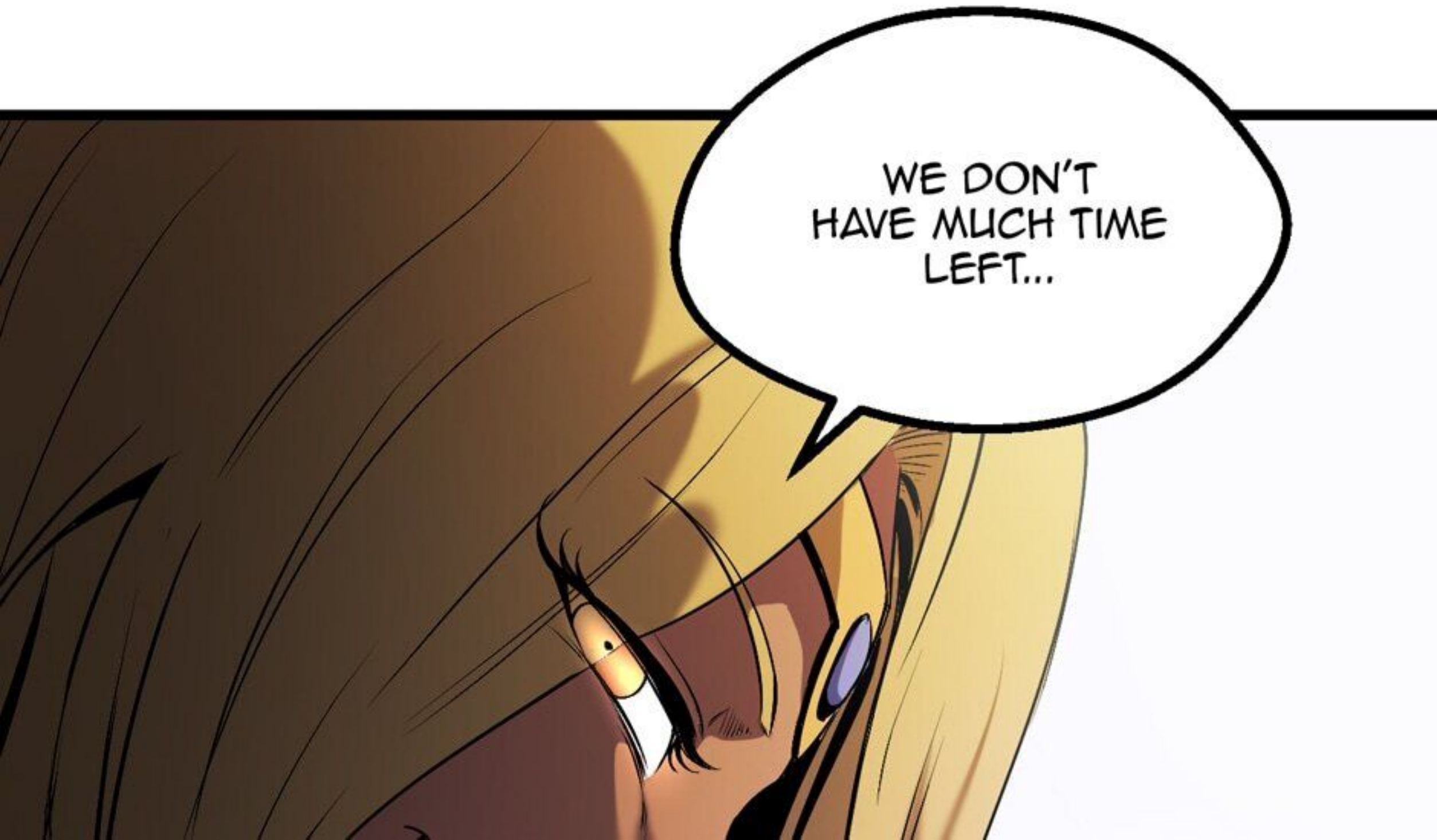
YOU ARE CORRECT, SIR. SHE SAID SHE WOULD COMPLETELY RESPECT BOTH OF YOUR OPINIONS.

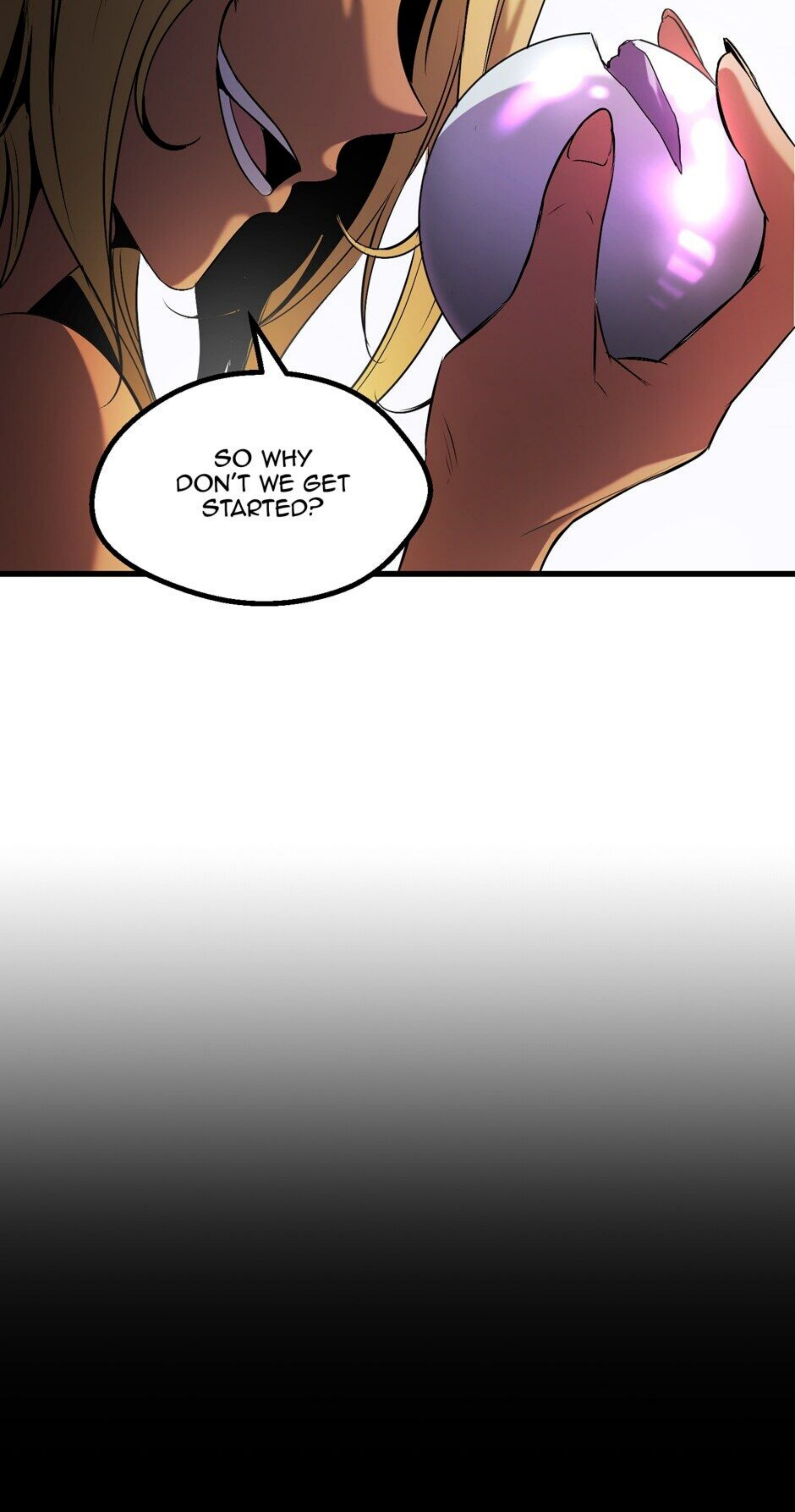
SHE'S GOTTEN LAZY SINCE SHE'S GOT A LONG LIFE AHEAD OF HER...

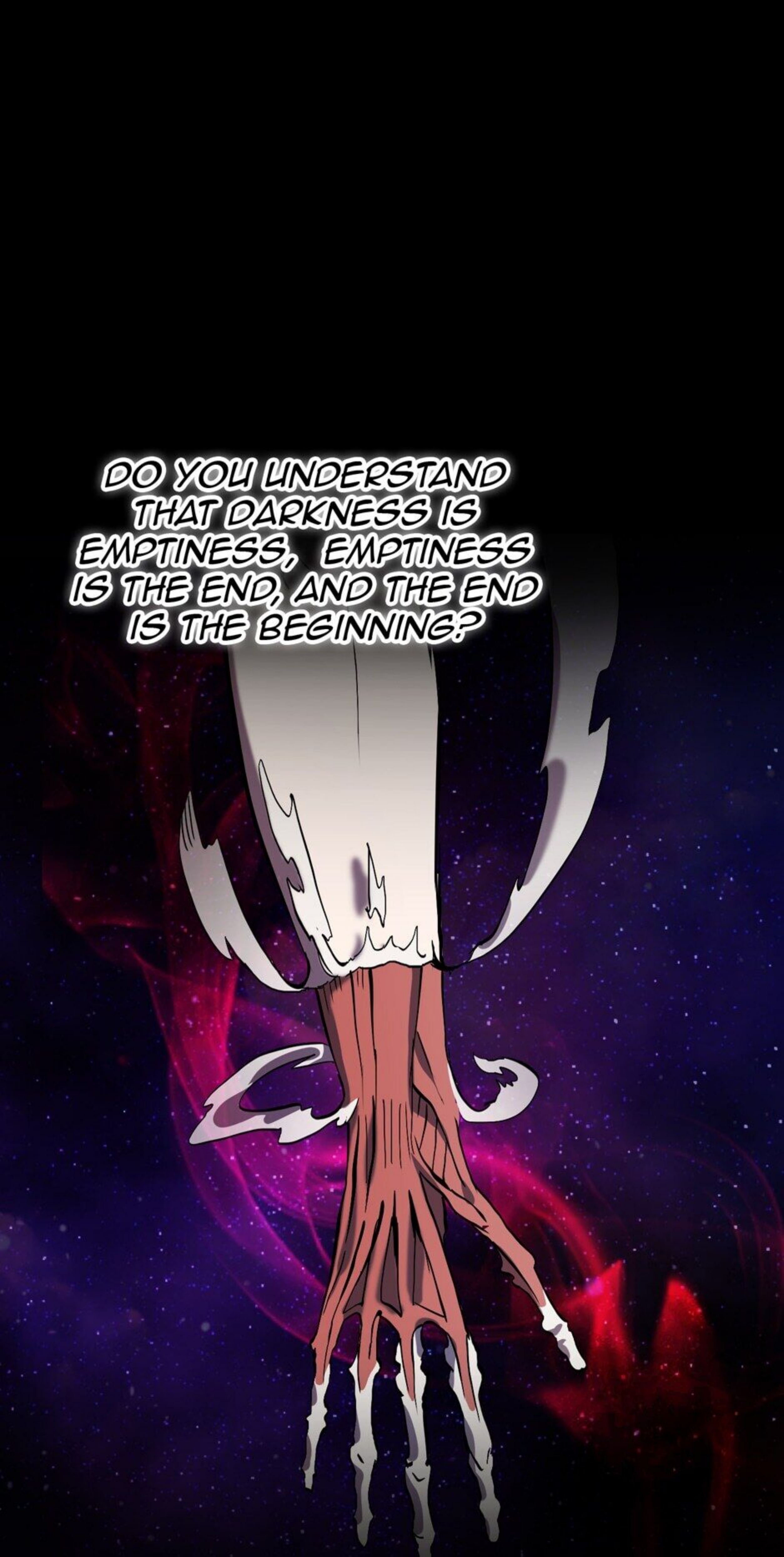
WAIT...

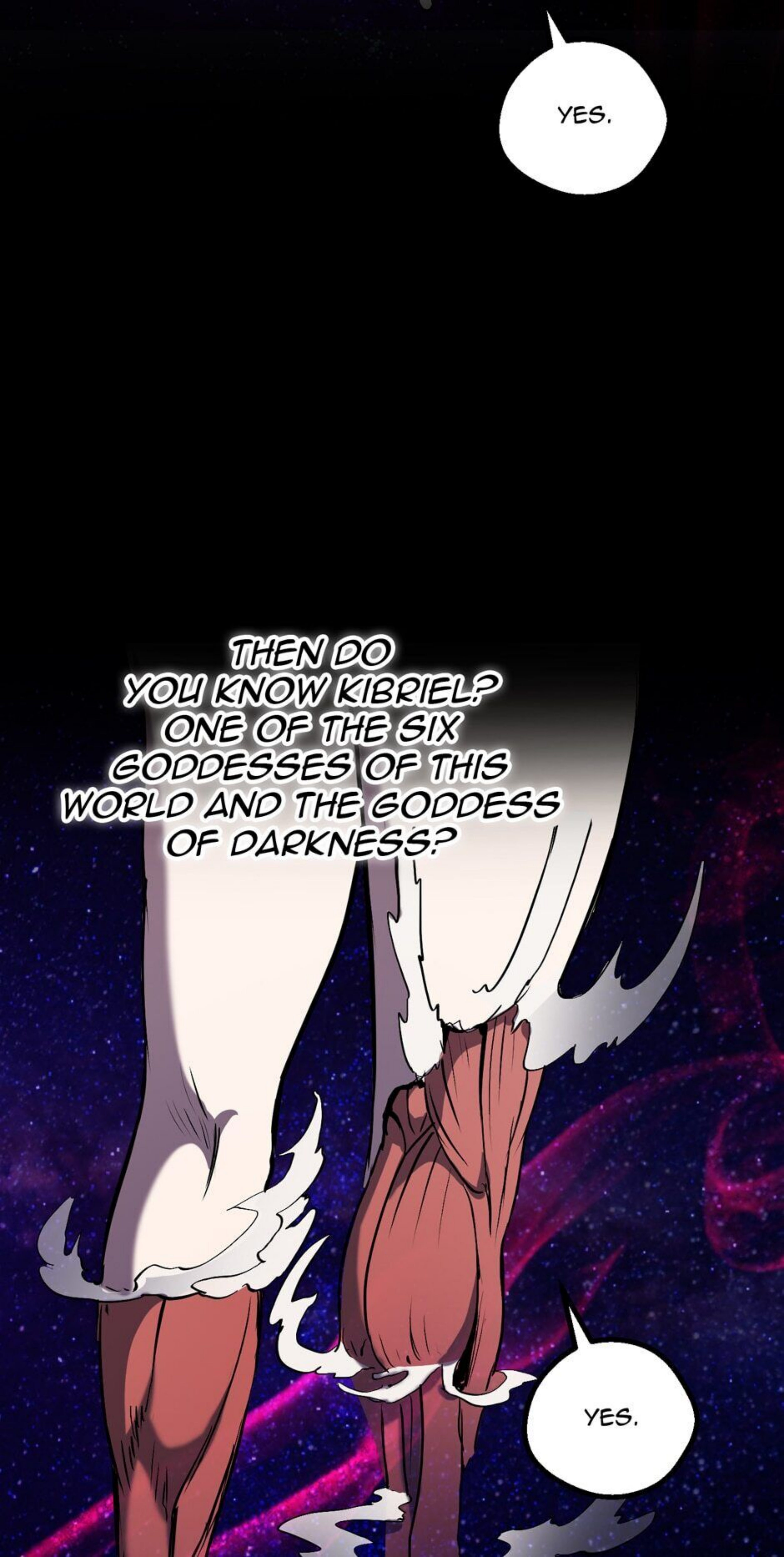
THAT MEANS...
YOU GOT IT?

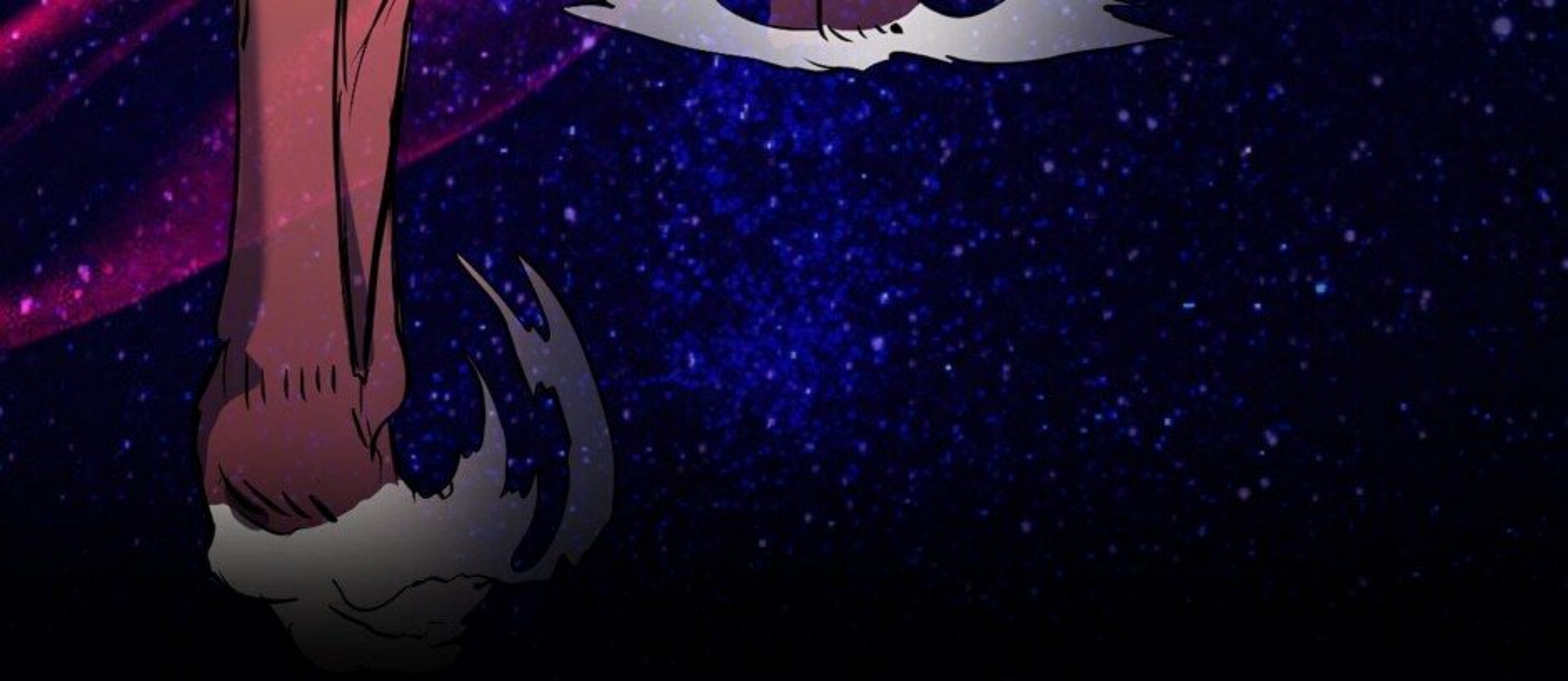
OMPHALOS'
BLESSING?


WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT...


SO WHY DON'T WE GET STARTED?

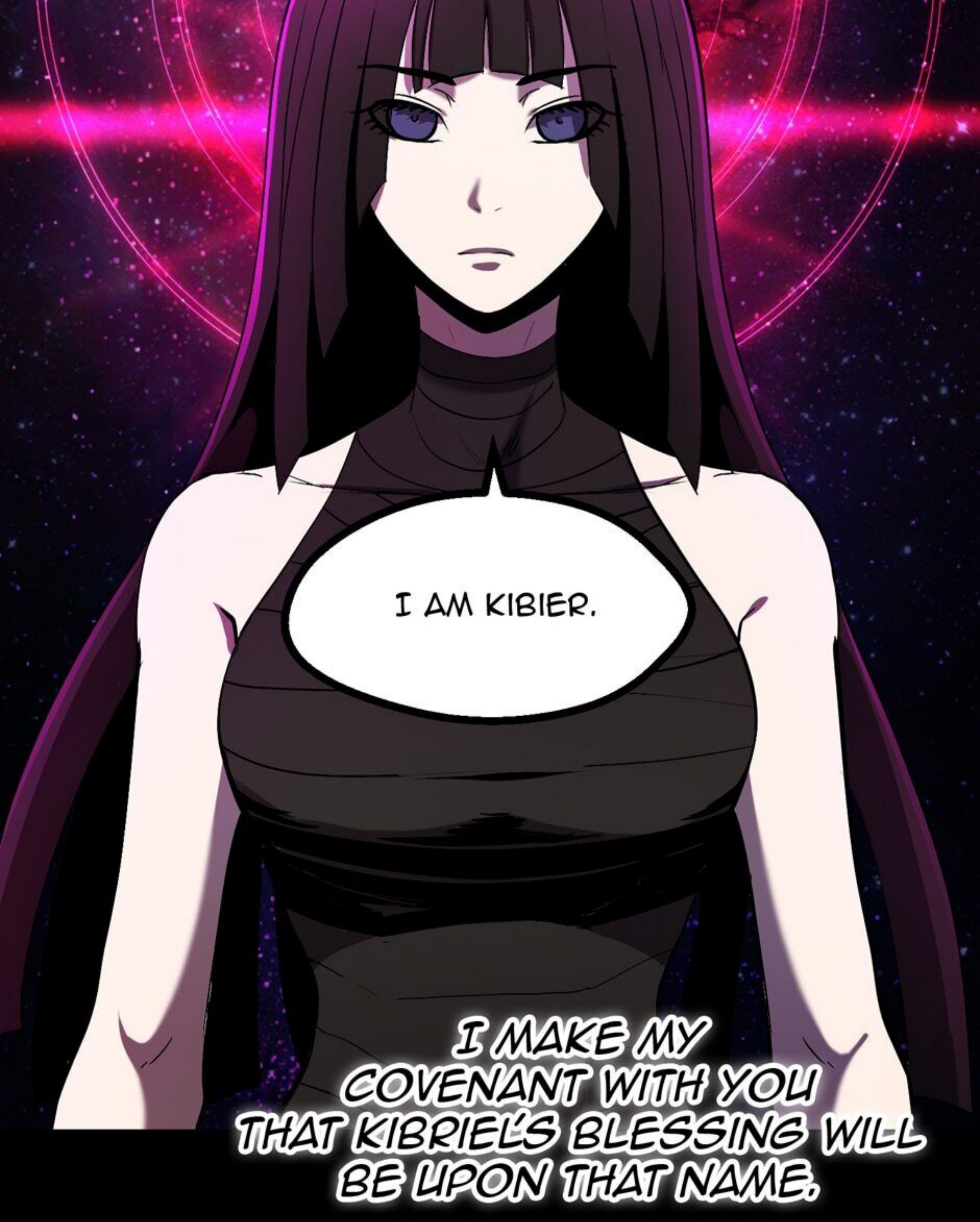

DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT DARKNESS IS EMPTINESS, EMPTINESS IS THE END, AND THE END IS THE BEGINNING?


YES.
THEN DO YOU KNOW KIBRIEL? ONE OF THE SIX GODDESSES OF THIS WORLD AND THE GODDESS OF DARKNESS?
YES.



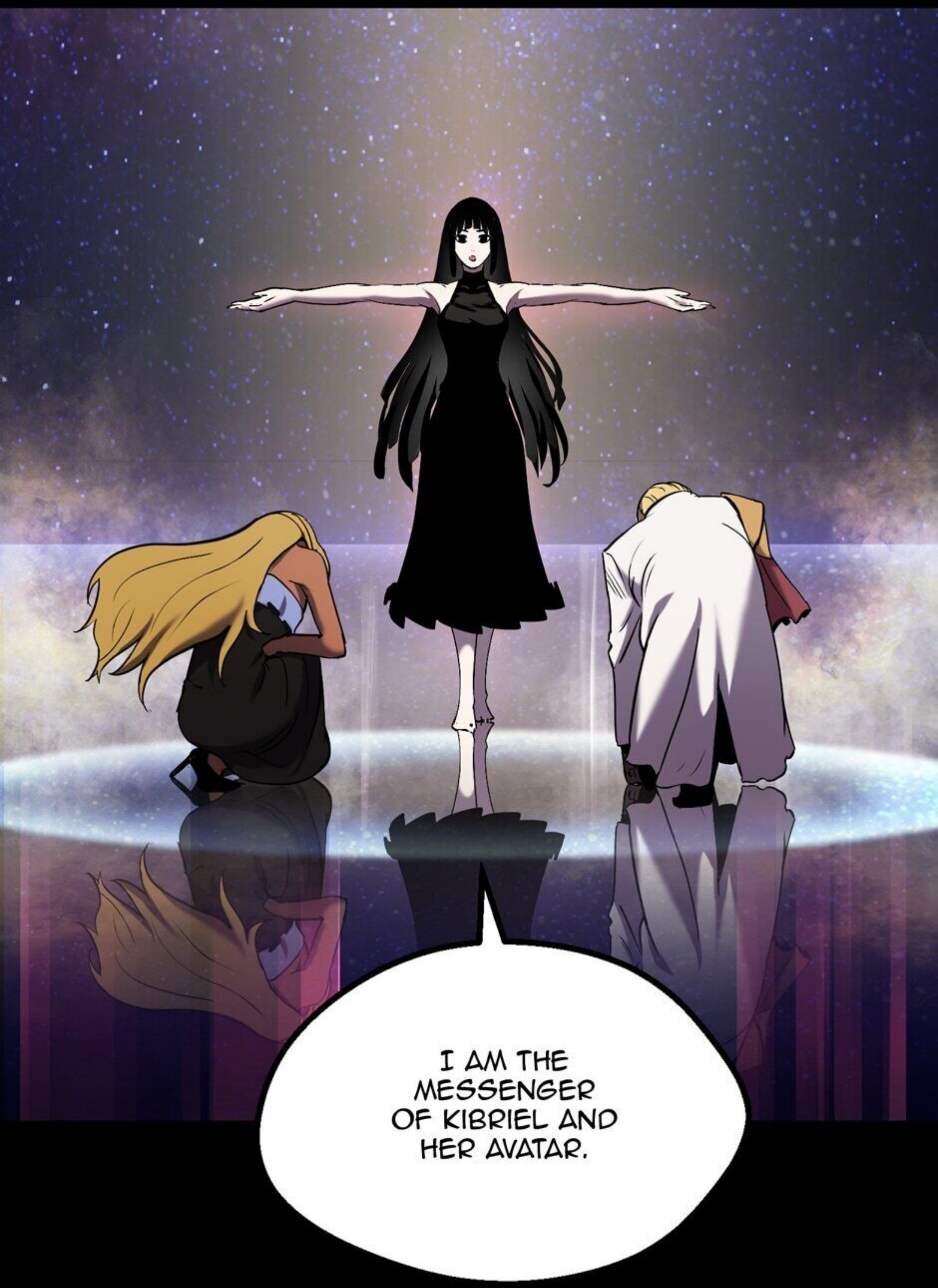
THEN I ASK YOU
THIS IN THE NAME OF THE
GODDESS OF DARKNESS,
KIBRIEL—WHO ARE YOU?

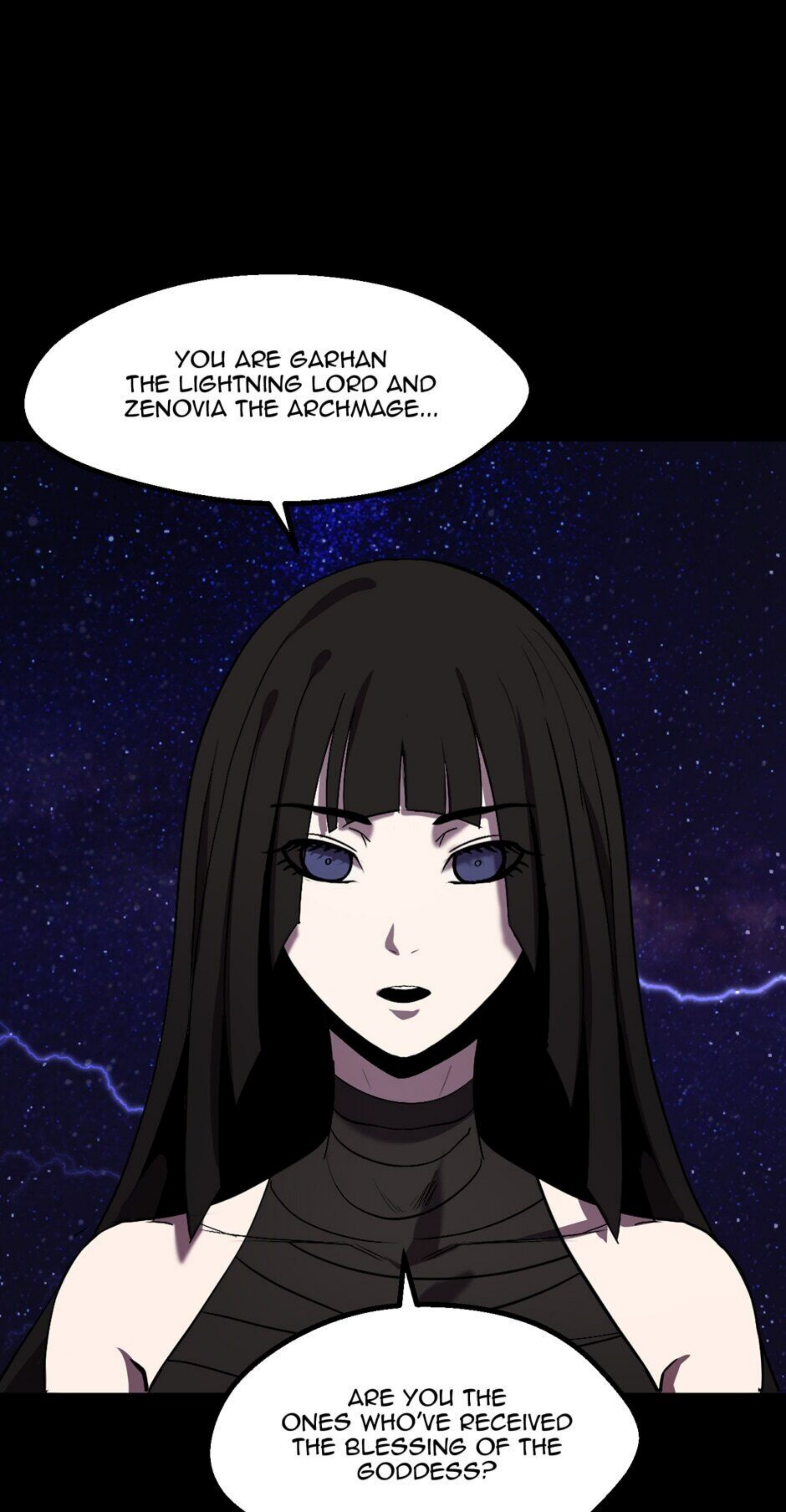
THIS MEDIUM IS THE ONE WHO DELIVERS THE WILL OF KIBRIEL, THE GODDESS OF DARKNESS, INTO THE LANGUAGE OF THE HUMANS.
THE AVATAR OF THE GODDESS OF DARKNESS, AND THE MESSENGER OF KIBRIEL...


I AM KIBIER.
I MAKE MY COVENANT WITH YOU THAT KIBRIEL'S BLESSING WILL BE UPON THAT NAME.
KIBIER,
THE CHILDREN WHO'VE BEEN CALLED BY

THE GODDESS WISH TO MEET ME AT MY ALTAR.

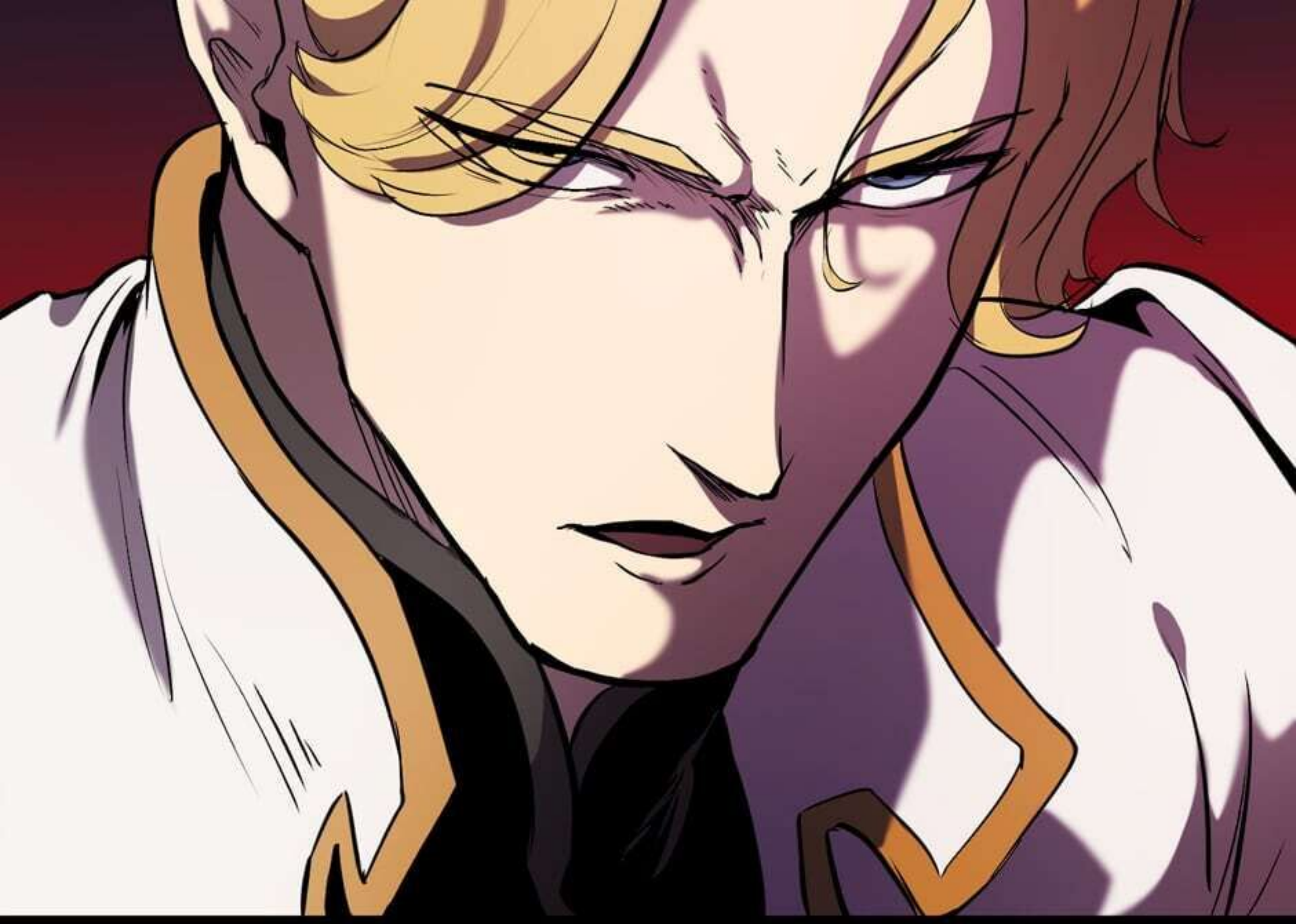
SUMMON THEM TO KEEP MY COVENANT, AS IT IS THEIR RIGHT.


I AM THE MESSENGER OF KIBRIEL AND HER AVATAR.


YOU ARE GARHAN THE LIGHTNING LORD AND ZENOVIA THE ARCHMAGE...
ARE YOU THE ONES WHO'VE RECEIVED THE BLESSING OF THE GODDESS?

BLESSING...?

WHAT A
LOAD OF CRAP.



RED DOG
CULTURE HOUSE

LATNA
SAGA
SURVIVAL OF A SWORD KING